



Related Medlearn Matters Article #: SE0451

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Guidance Regarding Elimination of Standard Paper Remittance (SPR) Advice Notices in the Old Format

Key Words

SE0451, Standard Paper Remittance Advice, SPR, ANSI ASC X12 835

Provider Types Affected

All Medicare physicians, providers and suppliers

Key Points

- The effective date for this instruction is April 4, 2005 for FIs, the implementation date is January 1 2005 for providers billing carriers and April 4, 2005 for providers billing FIs.
- "Effective January 1, 2005, only the 835 version 4010A1 flat file is to be used to produce the Standard Paper Remittance (SPR) advice notices; no other format for SPRs will be used.
- CMS does not allow the inclusion of data in paper remittance advice notices that is not included in the Electronic Remittance Advice (ERA) transactions.
- The same flat file should be used to produce both the SPR and 835 version 4010A1 ERA.
- The latest version of the SPR advice and the ERA contain the same information in the comparable fields and data elements, including the same codes.
- Providers billing FIs may see new data elements in their SPRs, i.e.:
 - An additional field for the new technology add-on payment;
 - A "PRE PAY ADJ" (presumptive payment adjustment) field in the claim detail section; and
 - A new field to report a provider-level adjustment used to balance an "out of balance" remittance on the SPR summary page.
- Providers billing carriers and DMERCS should note:
 - Not all carriers and DMERCs will be able to create SPRs directly from an 835 flat file.
 - If this is the case, they may continue to follow current practices for SPR preparation, ensuring that each SPR issued contains the same data elements that would be reported in the equivalent

segments and data elements of an 835 version 4010A1 if produced for the same claim and provider;

- This includes SPRs for providers that have transitioned to the 835 version 4010A1 and to those that received earlier versions of the 835 or the National Standard Format ERA pending transition.
- SPRs may not contain data, other than the contractor's name and address and some calculated totals (as permitted in the SPR format in Chapter 22 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual) that is not reported in the ERA.

Important Links

Medlearn Matters article SE0451 - Guidance Regarding Elimination of Standard Paper Remittance (SPR) Advice Notices in the Old Format **Revised: 12/06/2004 (Revised the implementation date for providers billing FIs, and added clarification of the expectations for carrier changes.)**

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/medlearn/matters/mmarticles/2004/SE0451.pdf>

Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 22:

http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/104_claims/clm104c22.pdf

CR 3344 – Information about the FI Part A 835 flat file, including a sample of the most recent SPR format:

http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/pm_trans/R252CP.pdf